A FEW THOUGHTS

SUGGESTED BY THE TERM

"LATTER-DAY SAINT."

PERHAPS for many years past there has no Heresy sprung forth from that corrupt fountain, the natural heart, aided by the power of Satan, the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the hearts of the children of wrath,—one that has so agitated and perplexed the minds of men,—as Mormonism, or the church of the Latter-day Saints.

To the believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, it must be more or less (in proportion as he is living in the power of the Spirit) a subject of sorrow and solemn warning:—of sorrow, because he sees many awfully deluded, led captive by the devil at his will; of warning, because the very existence of such heresies proves to him that he is living in the "last days and dangerous times." While to those who know not God, nor Jesus Christ whom he has sent, it is a subject of mockery and ridicule, and by it they take occasion to speak evil of those who are the "beloved of God, called saints," Rom. i. 7; proving that they themselves are equally blinded by the god of this world.

The writer of these lines was travelling on a stage-coach, a few days ago, with persons of the latter description, whose mouths—to use the words of Scripture—were "full of cursing and bitterness." One of them spoke in dreadfully profane language of the Latter-day Saints, which gave rise to the following reflections:

I thought of that day and of those scenes mentioned in the latter part of the 20th chapter of Revelations; of the great white throne and of Him that sat thereon; of the dead, small and great, standing before that throne. I thought how unspeakably blessed, amid the awful solemnities of that day, in the presence of angels, principalities, and powers, men and devils, will it be to be owned and acknowledged as a Saint!

And now, dear reader, what is a Saint? I answer, it is one separated unto God; one who "by nature is a child of wrath, even as others," Ephesians ii. 3; but he is redeemed by the blood of Christ, indwelt by the Spirit of Christ, and is thus "made meet to be a partaker of the inheritance of the saints in light," Colossians i. 12. And let me earnestly press it upon you, whoever you are, to examine yourself and see whether or not you know the power of that redemption wrought by Christ; whether you have really experienced what it is to be a new creature, to be redeemed from this present evil world, and separated unto God:—for, rest assured, that unless you know somewhat of saintship in time, while the day of grace lasts, when once the Master of the House rises up and shuts to the door, there will be no entrance into the saint's inheritance, no partaking of the saint's blessing. For when He comes, while it is to be glorified in His saints, at the same time it is to take vengeance on those who know not God, and obey not the Gospel of His Son:—

Then scorners will to their doom be hurl'd,
While scorned saints will judge the world.

A Saint! how blest are those that claim
That privileg'd, that honour'd name!
And confidently take their stand
Tho' lowest in the saintly band.

[Price 4d. a dozen, or 2s. 6d. per 100.]

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